

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A medical implant comprising:

a first bone anchor;

a second bone anchor; and

a brace comprising:

[[a]]means for pivoting the brace from a first position to a second position, wherein in the second position the brace couples the first bone anchor to the second bone anchor;

[[a]]means for slidingly adjusting the means for pivoting along at least a portion of the longitudinal length of the brace; and

[[a]]means for transmitting torque between the brace and [[the]]at least one of the first and second bone anchors.

26. (Currently Amended) The [[device]] medical implant of claim 25 wherein the means for pivoting further comprises a supporting means wherein the supporting means comprises:

a pair of bearings displaced on opposite sides of the brace while in the second position, each of the pair of bearings interfacing with an indentation longitudinally displaced along the brace

~~a pair of bearings displaced on opposite sides of the captured brace, the bearings interfacing with the brace by indentations longitudinally displaced along the brace.~~

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[device]]~~ medical implant of claim ~~[[26]]~~ 25 wherein the medical implant further comprises:
a receptacle; and
~~the brace comprises:~~
~~means for engaging a receptacle attached to the second bone anchor spaced apart from~~
~~the first bone anchor, the device further comprising;~~
means for polyaxially attaching the receptacle to the head of the second bone anchor;
and wherein the receptacle comprises means for engaging with the brace.

30. (Currently Amended) The medical implant ~~[[device]]~~ of claim ~~[[29]]~~ 25 ~~wherein~~
~~the first and second anchor engagement means further comprising:~~
means for locking the brace and the anchors in a fixed relationship with each other.